

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 EUR-12

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R 010707Z APR 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7507

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 617

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: PRC PULP AND FERTILIZER PURCHASES

REF: A) HONG KONG 3086, B) PEKING 0600

1. DURING THE LAST MONTH, THE PRC HAS BROUGHT OVER 100,000 TONS OF PULP WORTH OVER \$20 MILLION IN A SERIES OF PURCHASES FROM VARIOUS SUPPLY SOURCES. EMBASSY OFFICERS HERE IN PEKING ARE USUALLY UNABLE, OR UNWILLING, TO GIVE PRECISE SALES TOTALS, BUT AN APPROXIMATE LIST WOULD READ: CANADA - 50,000 TONS; DENMARK (THE EAST ASIATIC COMPANY SELLING PULP FROM ITS CANADIAN MILLS) - 10,000 TONS; FINLAND - 15,000 TONS; NEW ZEALAND - 10-15,000 TONS; AND SWEDEN - 15,000 TONS. MEAD PULP SALES ALSO CONCLUDED A MARCH CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF ABOUT \$1.7 MILLION WORTH OF U.S. PULP. A SWEDISH COMPANY ALSO SOLD 3,000 TONS OF PAPER, AND EMBASSY OFFICERS ALL REPORT CONTINUED PRC INTEREST IN PACKAGING MATERIAL.

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2. JAPANESE EMBOFF HAS CONFIRMED RECENT PRESS REPORTS OF A MID-MARCH SALE OF 200,000 TONS OF JAPANESE CHEMICAL FERTILIZER FOR DELIVERY BY JUNE.

3. COMMENT: THIS CONTINUATION OF PRC COMMODITY PURCHASES REPORTED REFTELS IS TAKING PLACE IN A

PERIOD OF "SERIOUS DISCUSSION" BUT LITTLE BUSINESS
IN MACHINERY AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY ITEMS AND NO BUSI-
NESS IN WHOLE PLANTS. THE PRC IS EVIDENTLY NOT
YET READY TO PROCEED WITH LARGE SCALE PURCHASES
IN THESE AREAS. INSTEAD, PRC TRADING CORPORATIONS
ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SUBSTANTIAL TRADE SUR-
PLUS REALIZED IN 1976, AND ANTICIPATED FOR 1977, TO
REPLENISH INVENTORIES OF RAW MATERIALS AND AGRICUL-
TURAL PRODUCTS UNDER THE FAVORABLE MARKET CONDITIONS.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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